

DECEMBER 2011

Q

148

PAGE 01 MONTEV 00598 01 OF 02 250022Z

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-33 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 FA-05 IO-14
TRSE-00 AID-05 /083 W

-----030252 250031Z /61/40

FM AMEMBASSY MONTVIDEO

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 MONTEVIDEO 0598

CORRECTED COPY (FOR PARAGRAPH THREE)

USIA FOR IOP/M. ILA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, UY

SUBJECT: FIRST EDITORIAL COMMENTARY ON TODMAN SPEECH

REF: MONTEVIDEO 0582

1. IN THE FIRST EDITORIAL COMMENTARY TO APPEAR TO DATE ON THE TODMAN SPEECH PRO-GOVERNMENT EL DIARIO FEBRUARY 21 PUBLISHED A LONG EDITORIAL ENTITLED, "TERENCE TODMAN: AN ENCOURAGING SPEECH." FOLLOWING IS A TRANSLATION OF THE FULL TEXT:

2. (BEGIN TEXT) ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION IN THESE COLUMNS WE HAVE COMMENTED ON THE POLICY OF "DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS" WHICH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN CARRYING OUT WITH SUCH ENTHUSIASM SINCE THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT JAMES F. CARTER. ON THESE OCCASIONS, WE WARNED OF THE CONSEQUENCES WHICH IN SPITE OF THE GOOD INTENTIONS OF THE AMERICAN CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE APPLICATION OF THAT POLICY COULD HAVE, ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, NOT BECAUSE OF ITS OBJECTIVE --WHICH ALL THE FREE WORLD CANNOT HELP BUT SHARE--

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MONTEV 00598 01 OF 02 250022Z

BUT BECAUSE OF THE WAY IT WAS BEING PUT INTO PRACTICE.

3. WE POINTED OUT THAT THE RESULTS OBTAINED A FEW MONTHS AFTER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THAT POLICY WERE TOTALLY NEGATIVE: ALL THAT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED WAS AN OPEN CONFRONTATION WITH TRADITIONALLY FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS THAT HAD BEEN PILLORIED ON RATHER SHAKY GROUNDS. AND WE EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THIS WAS BASICALLY DUE TO TWO MISTAKES BY WASHINGTON. FIRST: THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD ONLY HEARD THE VOICE OF THE OPPOSITION, WITHOUT BROTHERING TO PAY ATTENTION TO THE REASONS WIELDED BY THE DIFFERENT GOVERNMENTS AND WITHOUT EVEN CONCERNING ITSELF ABOUT VERIFYING WHO THESE OPPOSITION VOICES WERE OR WHAT THEIR INTENTIONS WERE. SECOND: THAT COUNTRIES WERE MEASURED WITH DIFFERENT YARDSTICKS; WHILE SOME WITH A DEEP DEMOCRATIC TRADITION WERE PUBLICLY CENSURED FOR SUPPOSED DEVIATIONS, RAPPROCHEMENT WAS EXTENDED TO OTHER NATIONS, SUCH AS RED CHINA, WHICH ARE NOTED FOR THEIR LONGTIME VIOLATION OF THE MOST BASIC RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL. WE SAID THAT THERE

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 1

031597030

SEEAFFER JEANNE M
78 MONTEVIDEO 598

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

WAS NO BETTER WAY TO PERVERT THE MORALITY OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY THAN TO CONTINUE PERSEVERING IN THESE MISTAKES. AND WE THAT THE WAY THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS HEADED, WAS TURNING OUT TO BE THE MOST JUDICIOUS, EFFECTIVE AND DIRECT WAY TO OBTAIN THE OPPOSITE RESULT.

4. MONTHS HAVE PASSED AND RECENTLY THE NEWS AGENCIES REPORT THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT'S LEADING OFFICIAL IN THE FIELD OF LATIN AMERICAN POLICY, TERENCE A. TODMAN, WHO RECENTLY MADE A TOUR OF ALMOST ALL THE CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES, ACQUAINTING HIMSELF WITH THE TRUTH ABOUT THEIR SOCIAL CONDITIONS, ADVOCATED IN A SPEECH GIVEN AT THE CENTER FOR INTER AMERICAN RELATIONS IN NEW YORK THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION ADOPT A "MORE MODERATE, BALANCED AND REALISTIC CAMPAIGN" ON THE SUBJECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03

MONTEV 00598 01 OF 02 250022Z

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 2

03115087030

A 10x10 grid of dots where some dots are black and others are white. The black dots form the words "PETER" and "PAUL" in a stylized, blocky font. The word "PETER" is on the left and "PAUL" is on the right, separated by a gap. The grid is 10 columns wide and 10 rows high.

UNCLASSIFIED

119096 221953Z /40

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 MONTEVIDEO 0598

7. BUT THERE IS MORE. TODMAN, A CAREER DIPLOMAT WITH EXPERIENCE IN LATIN AMERICAN AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS, WHO BECAUSE HE SHARED THE IDEALS OF PRESIDENT CARTER WAS GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DIRECTING POLICY FOR LATIN AMERICA, PRESENTED STRONG ARGUMENTS. HE SAID THAT ONE MUST AVOID SPEAKING OUT BEFORE LEARNING ALL THE FACTS, OR WITHOUT CALCULATING THE LIKELY REACTION AND RESPONSES TO OUR INITIATIVES; THAT WE MUST AVOID EXPECTING OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO ACHIEVE OVERNIGHT FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN THEIR SOCIETIES

PAGE 02 MONTEV 00598 02 OF 02 221854Z

9. TODMAN HAS SYNTHESIZED IN HIS SPEECH THE STRONGEST ARGUMENTS THAT IN THE FULFILLMENT OF HIS FUNCTION HE COULD GATHER FROM THE LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS. AND HE HAS HAD

PAGE 3

03 July 2009

SEDAFFER JEANNE M
72 MONTEVIDEO 598

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

THE SINCERITY AND SUFFICIENT COURAGE TO TRANSMIT THEM PUBLICLY,
AFTER BEING CONVINCED OF THEIR VALIDITY.

10. (THE SPEECH) DEALS, THEN, WITH THE MOST IMPORTANT REACTION
REGISTERED UP UNTIL NOW AGAINST THE INCOHERENT POLICY OF THE
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT. AND IT GIVES OPTIMISTIC HOPE FOR
AN ADJUSTMENT OF THE DIRECTION OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION,
OVERCOMING THE OPINION OF THOSE ADVISORS WHO, AS SENATOR ROBERT
DOLF SAID SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, "ONE DOESN'T KNOW WHY" THEY ARE SO
BENT ON NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH OPENLY COMMUNIST REGIMES,
WHILE THEY FREELY CONTINUE TO INFLICT MORAL INJURY TO SO MANY
TRADITIONAL FRIENDS.

11. AFTER VISITING LATIN AMERICA; AFTER EXCHANGING IDEAS
WITH ITS LEADERS; AFTER OBSERVING THE PROCESSES WHICH ARE TAKING
PLACE IN THE DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. TODMAN HAS BEEN CONVERTED INTO
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 43 MONTEV 00598 02 OF 02 221854Z

A TRUE DEFENDER OF THE AGGRIEVED CONTINENT. COUNTRIES, LIKE
URUGUAY, WHICH HAVE UNJUSTLY SUFFERED THE MORAL INJURY RE-
PRESENTED BY THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE,
CANNOT HELP BUT FEEL THEMSELVES COMFORTED BY THE SELF CRITICISM
OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL. AND THEY CONFIDENTLY HOPE
THAT HIS VOICE WILL BE HEARD, SO THAT VERY SOON AMERICAN
FOREIGN POLICY MAY REGAIN ITS PLACE AS THE LEADING WESTERN
POWER WHICH IT HAD ALWAYS HAD AND NEVER SHOULD HAVE ABANDONED.

(END OF TEXT) PEZZULLO

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED